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Chairman: Mr. Mochochoko ..... (Lesotho)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.20 a.m.

Agenda item 160: Measures to eliminate international terrorism (*continued*) (A/54/37, A/54/301 and Add.1; A/C.6/54/2 and A/C.6/54/L.2)

1. **Mr. Pham Truong Giang** (Viet Nam), noting that terrorism was a transnational phenomenon, said that the international community should therefore work out a comprehensive legal framework for coordinating its activities and combating international terrorism. Accordingly, a comprehensive convention against international terrorism, along the lines of the proposal by the Indian delegation, should be drafted.

2. He welcomed the initiative of the Russian Federation concerning the elaboration of a draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, which should take into account international law and practices. As far as the draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism was concerned, his delegation was considering the position it would adopt in the light of the opinions expressed by other delegations during the debates of the Sixth Committee. Any instrument that was adopted should respect the sovereignty and legitimate rights of States.

3. Terrorism was defined as a crime under the Penal Code of Viet Nam. Moreover, Viet Nam was a party to the Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft signed at Tokyo in 1963, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft signed at The Hague in 1970 and the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation concluded at Montreal in 1971.

4. **Mr. Al-Naman** (Saudi Arabia) said that efforts to combat international terrorism were based on the 1994 Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism. In accordance with that Declaration, States must refrain from organizing, instigating, facilitating, financing, encouraging or tolerating terrorist activities, ensure the apprehension of perpetrators of such acts and accede to the treaties concerning various aspects of international terrorism. Saudi Arabia, for its part, observed the relevant principles of international law concerning efforts to combat terrorism and it was willing to cooperate with the international community with a view to adopting conventions and declarations to eradicate that scourge. Therein lay the crucial importance of the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, which should also cover the military activities of States, as proposed by the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries.

5. **Mr. Shafiyev** (Azerbaijan) said that terrorism was on the rise despite condemnation by the international community. Terrorist activities in his country had increased ever since Armenia had launched a war against it in the late 1980s and occupied 20 per cent of its territory. That had resulted in about one million refugees and displaced persons. Moreover, there was documentary proof of the involvement of the Armenian intelligence services in many terrorist attacks in Azerbaijan.

6. He stressed the need to take into account the relationship between terrorism and separatism on the one hand, and between terrorism and the illicit traffic in arms and drugs on the other hand, as those problems affected the entire Caucasus region.

7. Pursuant to the Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism of 1994, Azerbaijan was about to ratify the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft of 1970, the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Civil Aviation of 1971, the International Convention against the Taking of Hostages of 1979 and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports serving International Civil Aviation of 1988. In addition, the Government of Azerbaijan was taking measures to prevent terrorists from taking refuge in its territory or using it as a springboard for launching terrorist attacks.

8. **Mr. Edmond** (Haiti) said that, despite the efforts made by the international community, terrorism continued to cause incalculable losses of human lives and material damage. The fight against international terrorism required a comprehensive definition of that phenomenon, as proposed by the delegation of India. An international conference should be convened for that purpose. His delegation considered international cooperation in the fight against terrorism extremely important and that was why it endorsed the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism, submitted by the Russian Federation, and the draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism, submitted by France.

9. **Mr. Rosenstock** (United States of America) said that the Sixth Committee had focused on drafting international instruments to combat specific manifestations of terrorism. It was therefore not necessary to produce a definition of that phenomenon which would, moreover, be extremely difficult to achieve in view of the differences in opinion in that regard.

10. The draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism was excellent; it was therefore not necessary to reopen discussions on the issue. As far as the draft international convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism was concerned, efforts should be made to solve the issues covered by the proposal from the Russian Federation without addressing the issue of the use and possession of nuclear weapons by the nuclear powers, since the latter was outside the scope of the convention. His delegation hoped that that instrument and the draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism would be opened for signature in the current year.

11. As far as the future work of the Committee was concerned, the proposal by India for a comprehensive convention on international terrorism might come up against many difficulties. In that connection, it should be noted that the international community had opted for the codification of specific manifestations of terrorism because it had been unable to make progress in drafting a general text.

12. Some delegations had seen fit to abuse the item under discussion to make statements criticizing his country. Those statements did not merit a reply since they contained falsehoods.

13. **Mr. Nega** (Ethiopia) said that his country had been a victim of terrorist acts organized and financed from abroad and that such acts were continuing. The latest had been the terrorist bombing of a train near the town of Dire Dawa, which had killed two people. A certain country in the subregion, whose deliberate policy of armed confrontation against all its neighbours, including his own country, was well known, had continued to work hand in glove with international terrorists by training, financing and providing them support, with the ultimate objective of destabilizing the States of the subregion. Its contempt for the norms and principles of international law constituted a threat to the peace and stability of the Horn of Africa subregion.

14. At the regional level, his Government fully supported activities carried out in the framework of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) aimed at preventing and combating international terrorism in Africa. Ethiopia had signed the OAU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism adopted on 14 July 1999 in Algiers. International cooperation to combat terrorism needed to be enhanced both through adherence to international instruments and the taking of collective measures, including the exchange of information and provision of mutual assistance.

15. While significant progress had been made in addressing specific aspects of terrorist acts through the so-called "sectoral approach", there was a need to elaborate a comprehensive convention to combat international terrorism. In that regard, he welcomed the draft prepared by India, which would serve as a basis for negotiations.

16. The United Nations should play an increased role in enhancing international cooperation to prevent and suppress acts of terrorism. In that connection, his delegation fully supported the proposal to convene a high-level conference on terrorism under the auspices of the United Nations in the year 2000. His delegation hoped that the Security Council would not confirm the perception that it was the instrument of its most powerful members by not limiting itself to addressing only those acts of terrorism that affected the interests of its most important members.

17. Lastly, he reiterated his Government's unwavering position against all acts of international terrorism and its readiness to participate actively in regional and international efforts to prevent them.

18. **Ms. Hallum** (New Zealand) reaffirmed New Zealand's unequivocal condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and confirmed its determination to participate in the fight against terrorism by every means possible. New Zealand supported the step-by-step approach that the international community had been taking to develop a network of multilateral instruments to combat terrorism. In the past year New Zealand had become a party to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (Rome, 1988) and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports

Serving Civil International Aviation (Montreal, 1989). Only through the strengthening of anti-terrorist instruments could the international community ensure that terrorists found no safe haven by which they could continue their activities.

19. **Ms. Steains** (Australia) expressed concern that no delegation should be excluded from the process of negotiation on the draft convention for the suppression of acts of nuclear terrorism. As coordinator of the work on the draft convention, she had held discussions with various delegations and had reached the conclusion that there were still differences of opinion and that it would be difficult to arrive at an agreement on a text that could serve as a basis for negotiations. She had therefore decided not to convene informal consultations at the current session.

20. **Ms. Aghadjanian** (Armenia), exercising her right of reply, expressed surprise and regret at the statements of the representative of Azerbaijan concerning the assassination of the Prime Minister and high officials of Armenia by a terrorist. She stressed that acts of terrorism committed by an individual should not be characterized in the same way as acts of terrorism committed by a State. She wondered who had benefited from the assassination of the Prime Minister, whose aim had been to achieve peace in the region. Furthermore, Armenia, a landlocked country, had great problems with its energy supply as a result of the blockade imposed by Azerbaijan. The gas pipeline that supplied Armenia had been repeatedly and systematically blown up, leaving the country without gas, electricity or heating during the winter months. There was evidence that those explosions had been caused by terrorists based in the territory of a third State.

21. **Mr. Shafiyev** (Azerbaijan), exercising his right of reply, said that his country had obtained evidence of Armenia's intervention in acts of terrorism carried out in Azerbaijan.

22. **Mr. Dahab** (Sudan) said that the Secretary of State of the United States had recently met with John Garang, the leader of a Sudanese rebel movement, whose organization had been responsible for the assassination in May of four individuals devoted to humanitarian assistance. The meeting had taken place three months before the assassination. At a press conference the Secretary of State had stated that Garang was a refined, dynamic and very resolute person.

23. **Ms. Aghadjanian** (Armenia) said that it was not the first time that Azerbaijan had tried to use Armenia to justify its domestic problems.

Agenda item 157: Report of the Committee on relations with the host country (*continued*) (A/54/26)

24. **Mr. Moushoutas** (Cyprus) introduced draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.17 and explained that it took account of the main concerns of the diplomatic community, such as security of missions, respect for privileges and immunities, travel restrictions and parking. He pointed out that the annual report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country stressed the need to create appropriate conditions for the effective work of missions. The report also stressed the need to lift the restrictions on freedom of movement imposed on some delegations.

25. **Ms. Lehto** (Finland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, expressed her appreciation for the efforts made by the Committee on Relations with the Host Country to take into account the interests and needs of the diplomatic community in New York. The topics dealt with by that Committee were of great interest to all Member States. Over the past year there had been no new developments with regard to the question of the indebtedness of some members of the diplomatic community, and she stressed the importance of continuing efforts to resolve the problem in the interest of good relations between the diplomatic community, the United Nations and the host country. The indebtedness of some members of the diplomatic community contributed to other problems, for example, in the area of housing. She also stressed the importance of guaranteeing sufficient parking space for diplomatic vehicles, since that was necessary for the proper functioning of missions.

26. **Mr. Kawamura** (Japan), referring to the topic "security of missions and safety of their personnel", said that his delegation had had problems similar to those mentioned in the report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country. Although heightened police security measures were indispensable when heads of State or Government visited Headquarters, respect for the diplomatic community should also be observed. It was important that proper arrangements should be made to ensure that information regarding

security measures was conveyed to all Missions in a timely fashion.

27. With regard to housing problems, his delegation fully supported the statement made by the delegation of Malaysia. On various occasions, its members had been unable to rent apartments, and in some cases they had been asked to sign a letter revoking their immunity as a condition of renting. His delegation looked forward to that issue being further studied by the Bureau of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and the Committee's Working Group on indebtedness and to an early solution being devised.

28. **Mr. Rameez** (Malaysia) said that there should be a continuing dialogue between the host country, the United Nations and the representatives of accredited Member States in order to improve understanding and cooperation among all concerned. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country was the appropriate forum for that dialogue and should be strongly supported by all Member States so as to strengthen its credibility vis-à-vis the host country.

29. The travel restrictions on the staff of certain missions and staff members of the United Nations Secretariat of certain nationalities not only impinged on the right to freedom of movement of those concerned but also impeded the performance of their functions. His delegation hoped that the host country would lift those restrictions, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 53/104, dated 8 December 1998, and in accordance with its international obligations under the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations of 1961.

30. There was apparently a new tendency among apartment owners and building operators in New York to refuse to rent apartments to diplomats. In some cases higher deposits and charges were imposed, while in others the inclusion of a diplomatic termination clause in the lease agreement to cover cases of sudden transfer of diplomats out of New York was refused. While that trend might come about as a result of some diplomats defaulting on their rents and was to some extent understandable, there should not be blanket discrimination. It should be made clear that the majority of diplomats and Governments had always discharged their financial obligations in respect of rental of residences and offices in New York. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country should continue studying that matter and recommend means of meeting the needs and concerns of both parties.

31. His delegation believed that, before taking measures relating to motor vehicles, parking and related matters, the host country should consult the diplomatic community. He noted with regret that the Working Group on that issue had not met, it being stated that no new issues had been raised, although in the recent past many permanent missions, including that of Malaysia, had been receiving semi-monthly reports on parking violations from the Department of Finance of the City of New York. While he agreed that the members of the diplomatic corps should comply with traffic laws, before the City authorities decided to introduce new parking regulations, they should take into account the concerns and needs of the diplomatic community. The regulations had to be consistent with the provisions of the Vienna Convention, which stated that the receiving State should accord full facilities for the performance of the functions of the accredited missions of Member States.

32. His delegation noted with concern that some commercial establishments required diplomats to pay taxes, even though they produced their personal tax exemption cards, and he appealed to the host country to disseminate information to commercial establishments on the matter.

33. **Mr. Sergiwa** (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya) said that diplomats should respect the regulations of the host country and not abuse diplomatic immunity. He expressed appreciation for the efforts of the host country to guarantee the safety of missions but was concerned by the discriminatory treatment accorded to the members of certain missions and to Secretariat staff members from certain countries, including the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya. Parking regulations prevented officials from attending meetings in the New York area. Visa holders were also subject to restrictions and, when travelling outside the country, sometimes had to wait a considerable time for re-entry.

34. The argument for imposing such restrictions was the national security of the United States of America. Nevertheless, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya was a small developing country that threatened no one and wished only to establish friendly relations with other countries. He hoped that the Committee on Relations with the Host Country would consider the political motivation of those obstacles and restrictions and be able to

resolve those problems with the host country, particularly as such unjustified discriminatory practices were incompatible with the Headquarters Agreement. His delegation also hoped that the Committee on Relations with the Host Country could resolve questions relating to the parking of diplomatic vehicles, the security and safety of missions, non-interference in diplomatic affairs and indebtedness.

35. **Mr. Gão** (China) expressed satisfaction at the enlargement of the Committee, which had been achieved in the spirit of compromise and cooperation by consensus, on the basis of General Assembly resolution 53/104 and in conformity with the principle of equitable geographical distribution. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country was a unique body that had always worked on the basis of consensus and cooperation and had acted with flexibility, allowing observers to participate in its meetings, which guaranteed transparency in its work. He hoped that that positive tradition would continue. Much remained to be done with regard to maintaining and improving the conditions of work of the staff of the United Nations and missions, for example, with regard to security and safety of missions, parking of diplomatic vehicles, travel restrictions and debt payment. Some of those questions had been on the agenda for some time, and he hoped that the Committee would be able to make headway in the search for solutions.

36. **Mr. Zmeevski** (Russian Federation) expressed satisfaction at the enlargement of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and stressed the Committee's importance for the solution of day-to-day problems on which the efficiency of diplomatic work depended and in regard to which the Committee on Relations with the Host Country acted as a collective defence attorney and a direct link between the diplomatic community and the authorities of the host country. Emphasis should also be placed on the efforts of the host country to guarantee adequate conditions for the normal functioning of the United Nations and missions. Wherever there had been a sufficient degree of mutual understanding and cooperation, it had been possible to find satisfactory solutions.

37. Nevertheless, it was regrettable that some chronic problems still remained, such as travel restrictions. The Russian Federation reiterated its conclusions, based on international law, that that practice was discriminatory and incompatible with the basic instruments of international law and once more urged the authorities of the host country to lift discriminatory restrictions on travel within the territory of the United States of America. It was time to demolish that wall of mistrust and suspicion, a relic of the past.

38. Another pending problem was the parking of diplomatic vehicles, which affected the majority of missions and on which no progress had been made. He hoped that the municipal authorities would apply a constructive criterion and initiate a dialogue with the diplomatic community. Even the federal authorities might perhaps exercise their influence. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country should accord more attention to that problem during the year 2000. His delegation was prepared to consider all issues that were raised, including those raised by the federal and municipal authorities, and urged delegations to participate in the work of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country with a view to resolving urgent problems. He supported the conclusions and recommendations of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and hoped that they would be implemented as soon as possible. He also hoped that the draft resolution on the Committee's report would be adopted by consensus.

39. **Ms. Wilson** (United States of America) said that it was an honour for the United States to serve as host country to the United Nations. That brought with it a broad range of treaty obligations and commitments under international law, which the United States had been fulfilling since 1946, and it would continue to do so in the future.

40. The Committee on Relations with the Host Country was a very useful forum in which all issues relating to the presence of a large, diverse and dynamic diplomatic community and one of the largest and most diverse and dynamic cities on the globe. Thanks to the Committee and its working groups, the host country could keep abreast of the concerns of the United Nations community.

41. The opportunity for delegations of States that were not members of the Committee to participate fully in its work had made its deliberations more representative. It was, moreover, the only such committee in any of the various United Nations host countries that reported to the General Assembly. The United States remained committed to continuing to work with the Committee, its Working Group on parking and New York City authorities in order to meet

the concerns of the diplomatic community and arrive at a diplomatic parking programme that met the needs of all residents of the city and was consistent with the norms of local and international law.

42. Restrictions on private non-official travel imposed on members of certain missions did not violate international law. The United States provided members of those missions with unimpeded access to the Headquarters district. The United States was not required to permit those individuals to travel to other parts of the country unless they did so on official United Nations business. With regard to the difficulties experienced by some delegations in renting housing, federal laws prohibited discrimination in housing on grounds of race, gender and other similar factors, but the Federal Government had no control over other aspects of rental laws or practices followed by landlords. The host country would continue to provide assistance to diplomats who had problems relating to housing and looked forward to meeting with the Working Group on indebtedness with a view to exploring the issue more fully.

43. **Mr. Zackheos** (Cyprus) introduced draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.17 on behalf of Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Hungary, Spain and the United Kingdom. It was an updated version of the previous year's draft resolution and, after drawing attention to the basic aspects of the resolution, he introduced an amendment to the fifth preambular paragraph. He proposed that after the word "Member States" an asterisk should be inserted and that a footnote should indicate the names of the four new Member States, namely, Cuba, Hungary, the Libyan Arab Republic and Malaysia. He hoped that the draft resolution could be adopted by consensus, which was the general practice with regard to draft resolutions of the Sixth Committee.

44. **The Chairman** said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.17, as orally amended.

45. *It was so decided.*

46. **The Chairman** announced that the Committee had completed its consideration of agenda item 157.

Agenda item 161: Review of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal (*continued*) (A/C.6/54/L.20)

47. **Ms. Dickson** (United Kingdom) introduced draft decision A/C.6/54/L.20 and said that France, Ireland and the United Kingdom, in document A/C.6/54/L.13/Rev.1 had proposed reforms to the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal in order to strengthen it and help its members to cope with the Tribunal's large volume of work. The draft resolution had received much support, but, after the debates in the Sixth Committee and in informal consultations, the sponsors of the draft resolution had felt that delegations needed more time to consider all the proposed reforms and hoped to resubmit the draft resolution at the next session. Accordingly, draft decision A/C.6/54/L.20, which was of a purely technical nature, had as its purpose the inclusion in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly the item entitled "Review of the Statute of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal".

48. **Mr. Ekedede** (Nigeria), explaining his position, said that his delegation had been one of those that had expressed its concern about the transformation of the Administrative Tribunal into a purely judicial organ. It believed that the question should be considered in greater detail and hoped that the coordinators would keep in contact with all Member States, at least at the level of permanent missions.

49. **Mr. Rameez** (Malaysia) said that he would like to make a technical amendment to the draft resolution. If that one was not possible, he would join in the consensus.

50. **The Chairman** explained that at the current stage it was not possible to introduce amendments.

51. **Mr. Kanu** (Sierra Leone), explaining his position, said that he was satisfied with the decision adopted by the coordinators to continue considering the review of the Statute of the Administrative Tribunal at the next session of the General Assembly and that, consequently, he joined in the consensus of draft decision A/C.6/54/L.20.

52. **Ms. Álvarez Núñez** (Cuba), explaining her position, said that she believed that the criterion adopted was the most appropriate one, because it meant that there would be more time for making a full

analysis of the question and taking into account the comments of all delegations.

53. **The Chairman** said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft decision A/C.6/54/L.20.

54. *It was so decided.*

55. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 161.

Agenda item 155: Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-first session (*continued*) (A/C.6/54/L.6)

56. **Ms. Hallum** (New Zealand), introduced draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.6 on the nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States on behalf of the Bureau and said that the draft had been considered in open-ended informal consultations. It had been decided to include in the provisional agenda of the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly an item entitled "Nationality of natural persons in relation to the succession of States", with a view to the adoption at that session of the draft articles submitted on that item by the International Law Commission.

57. **The Chairman** said that, if he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.6 without a vote.

58. *It was so decided.*

Agenda item 160: Measures to eliminate international terrorism (*continued*) (A/C.6/54/L.16)

59. **Mr. Holmes** (Canada) introduced draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.16 and said that the item fell within the mandate of the Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 and the Working Group of the Sixth Committee in the current session. During the informal consultations held on 16 November, it had been noted that an overwhelming majority of States Members supported the draft resolution but that two delegations had made some reservations and had requested more consultations in order to achieve a consensus. After the word "recalling" in the first preambular paragraph, the words "all its relevant resolutions, including its resolution 46/51 of 9 December 1991," should be added. He thanked all delegations, especially those that had made reservations, for their cooperation and flexibility, and expressed the hope that the draft resolution would be adopted without a vote.

60. **Mr. Kawamura** (Japan), speaking in explanation of position, said that he agreed with the text of the draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism, which was a vital instrument for preventing that phenomenon. In view of the objective pursued by the draft convention, States parties to it must make the financing of terrorist acts a punishable offence. As far as the interpretation of the word "contributes" in article 2, paragraph 5 (c), was concerned, his delegation maintained the position it had expressed when the International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings had been adopted. With that reservation, his delegation endorsed the draft international convention for the suppression of the financing of terrorism.

61. **Mr. Obeid** (Syrian Arab Republic), speaking in explanation of position, said that his delegation was in favour of adopting the draft resolution by consensus, despite the fact that the text had some shortcomings. It would have been desirable to have a clear definition of terrorism, since it was important to distinguish between that phenomenon and the legitimate struggle of peoples against colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, as in the case of the struggle against Israeli occupation.

62. It was regrettable that the Working Group had not taken into account the comments of certain delegations designed to improve the draft resolution.

63. **Mr. Diab** (Lebanon), speaking in explanation of position, said that his delegation did not object to adopting the draft resolution by consensus and wished to reaffirm its solidarity with the international community in its efforts to eliminate terrorism.

64. It should be understood that the draft resolution submitted did not apply to the legitimate struggle against colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation, since that struggle was a right recognized in the Charter of the United Nations and in customary international law. Moreover, Israel should not use the Convention as an excuse for its continued occupation of Lebanese territory and refusal to free the Lebanese nationals it had imprisoned. Unfortunately, since the draft convention did not have a clear definition of terrorism, other instruments would have to be adopted later to combat clear violations of human

rights including violations committed under alien domination or foreign occupation.

65. **Ms. Álvarez Núñez** (Cuba) said that her delegation was in favour of adopting the draft convention without a vote. It was important to distinguish between acts of terrorism and the struggles of peoples under alien domination or foreign occupation for their right to self-determination.

66. It was regrettable that no definition of terrorism had been given in the draft convention and that the definition of financing had certain lacunae, including the express exclusion of some actors involved in the financing of terrorism, such as legal entities and States themselves. She hoped that States would demonstrate their goodwill and take the political measures required to deal with international terrorism in strict compliance with the *pacta sunt servanda* rule.

67. **Mr. Haque** (Pakistan) said he was disappointed that the draft convention did not address the fundamental issue of the universal definition of terrorism. It was also regrettable that the draft did not include the notion of State terrorism, differentiating it from the legitimate struggle of liberation movements. However, he would go along with the consensus.

68. **Mr. Al-Kadhe** (Iraq) said it was regrettable that State terrorism had not been included in the draft convention. Moreover, the right of peoples to self-determination should always be taken into account.

69. **Mr. Al-Akwaa** (Yemen) said that, while he was in favour of adopting the draft convention without a vote, its implementation should not allow certain people to take advantage of their status as refugees to foster acts of terrorism. His country attached great importance to cooperation among States at the regional and international levels and to the fulfilment by States of their obligations.

70. **Mr. Rosenstock** (United States of America), speaking on a point of order, expressed concern that the draft resolution had been introduced by the Coordinator and that it had no sponsors. While there might have been precedents in that regard, it might not be appropriate to depart from the rules of procedure, as that could lead to confusion. The same held true for draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.7 on the International Law Commission introduced by the Bureau. As a rule, no objections were made to drafts introduced by the Bureau or by sponsors.

71. **The Chairman** said that the appropriate changes would be made to address that concern. If he heard no objections, he would take it that the Committee wished to adopt draft resolution A/C.6/54/L.16, as amended, without a vote.

72. *It was so decided.*

73. **Mr. Dahab** (Sudan) said that his delegation welcome the adoption of the draft resolution, which underscored the efforts of the United Nations to combat terrorism in order to protect countries that were victims of that scourge. Article 2, paragraph 1 (b) was missing from the Arabic version.

74. **Mr. Alabrune** (France) said that the adoption of the draft resolution without a vote reflected the interest of delegations in that topic. While the results were not all that could have been hoped, his delegation had reason to be pleased.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.